
MAP
OF PART OF THE
DOMINION OF CANADA
Illustrating the use of the
Canadian Pacific Railway in the movement of
Troops to quell the
North-West Troubles in 1885.
By permission of the Can. P. R'y Co.
DOMINION OF CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA
SASKATCHEWAN
ASSINIBOIA
MANITOBA
KEEWATIN
ONTARIO
QUEBEC
NEW BRUNSWICK
NOVA SCOTIA
GULF OF ST LAWRENCE
CAPE BRETON ISLAND
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
JAMES BAY
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY
BOSTON
BALTIMORE
CHICAGO
PORTLAND
HALIFAX
REFERENCE TO TREATY INDIANS' RESERVATIONS.
NON-TREATY INDIANS.
REMARKS.
NORTH AMERICA
SOUTH AMERICA
ATLANTIC OCEAN
PACIFIC OCEAN
INDIAN OCEAN
AFRICA
ASIA
EUROPE
AUSTRALIA
TABLE OF DISTANCES.
Halifax to Winnipeg 2061
Winnipeg to Qu'Appelle 320
Qu'Appelle to Fort Qu'Appelle 19
Ft. Qu'Appelle to Touchwood 46
Touchwood to Humboldt 78
Humboldt to Clark's Crossing 55
Clark's Crossing to Battleford 88
Battleford to Eleanor 75
Eleanor to Edmonton 176
537
Clark's Crossing to Stobart 60
Stobart to Prince Albert 21
81
Edmonton to St. Albert 9
Edmonton to Calgary 194
Battleford to Swift Current 200
Battleford to Fort Pitt 93
Fort Pitt to Victoria 129
Victoria to Saskatchewan 54
Saskatchewan to Edmonton 20
206
REFERENCES.
Indians' Reservations.
Routes Followed by Troops.
Trail Followed by Maj. Gen. Middleton's Column.
Strange's Column.
Lt.-Col. Otter's Column.
Mounted Police.
Places Where Engagements Took Place.
Places Where Troops Were Stationed or Local Comp. Authorized.
Ambulances and Hospitals.
TABLE OF COMPARATIVE DISTANCES.
Statute Miles.
Main Line—Montreal to Port Moody, All Rail Route. 2,895
From New York to Port Moody, via Brockville and Can. Pac. R'y. 3,155
From New York to San Francisco, via Central and Union Pacific Railways, and shortest connecting lines through the United States. 3,331
From Liverpool to Montreal. 2,043
From Liverpool to New York. 3,431
From Liverpool to Port Moody, via Montreal and Can. Pac. R'y. 5,938
From Liverpool to San Francisco, via shortest connecting lines in the United States. 6,762
From Liverpool to Yokohama (Japan) via Montreal and Can. Pac. R'y. 10,974
From Liverpool to Yokohama (Japan) via New York and San Francisco. 11,990
The Canada Bank Note Co. Lith.

[The following extracts from newspaper reports may be found of interest.]

THE NORTH-WEST FIELD FORCES

1885

Corps ordered from Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia for active service in the North-West, forwarded via Canadian Pacific Railway round North Shore of Lake Superior.

Corps taken from Existing Active Militia.	Head Quarters.	Commanding Officer.	Called Out 1885.	Left Headquarters for North-West, 1885.	Arrived at Winnipeg, 1885.	Strength: Officers.	Strength: N. C. Officers and Men.	Strength: Horses.	Strength: Guns.
Regiment of Canadian Artillery:—									
"A" Battery	Quebec	Lt.-Col. Montizambert	March 27	March 28	April 5	4	107	9	2
"B" Battery	Kingston		do.	do.	do.	8	106	18	2
Infantry School Corps									
"C" Company	Toronto	Lt.-Col. Otter	March 27	March 30	April 7	5	85		
2nd Battalion	do.		do.	do.	do.	18	257		
10th Battalion	do.		do.	do.	April 8	17	250		
Midland Battalion	Kingston	Lt.-Col. A. Williams, M.P.	March 28	April 6	April 14	34	342		
York and Simcoe Batt.	Toronto	Lt.-Col. O'Brien, M.P.	March 30	April 2	April 10	27	342		
Governor-General's Foot Guards; One Comp'y Sharpshooters	Ottawa	Capt. Todd	March 30	March 31	April 8	3	48		
7th Battalion	London	Lt.-Col. W. Williams	March 31	April 7	April 15	20	237		
Governor-General's Body Guard	Toronto	Lt.-Col. Denison	April 1	April 6	April 15	8	73	72	
65th Battalion	Montreal	Lt.-Col. Ouimet, M.P.	March 27	April 2	April 10	23	317		
9th Battalion	Quebec	Lt.-Col. Amyot, M.P.	March 31	April 2	April 12	28	204		
Cavalry School Corps "A" Troop	Quebec	Lt.-Col. Turnbull	April 10	April 11	April 19	2	45	33	
Halifax Provisional Battalion	Halifax	Lt.-Col. Bremner	March 31	April 11	April 22	32	349		
Gatling Battery						1	4	9	2
Montreal Gar. Artil'y	Montreal	Lt.-Col. Oswald	April 30	May 11	May 20	20	276		
						251	3042	141	6

Corps on service in the North-West in addition to those sent from Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia.

Corps.	Headquarters.	Officer Commanding.	Strength: Officers.	Strength: N. C. Officers and Men.	Strength: Horses.	Strength: Guns.
Cavalry Troop	Winnipeg	Captain Knight	1	35	36	
Field Battery	Winnipeg	Major Jarvis	3	59	18	2
Winnipeg Light Infantry	Winnipeg	Lt.-Col. O. Smith	29	298		
90th Battalion Rifles	Winnipeg	Lt.-Col. Mackeand	24	290		
Winnipeg Infantry Battalion	Winnipeg	Lt.-Col. Thos. Scott, M.P.	24	408		
Boulton's Scouts	With General	Major Boulton	5	108	113	
D.L.S. Scouts	Qu'Appelle	Captain J. S. Dennis	3	50	53	
Moose Mountain Scouts	South of Qu'Appelle	Captain White	3	51	54	
Rocky Mountain Rangers	Calgary and Fort McLeod	Captain J. Stewart	4	150	154	
Yorkton Company	Yorkton	Major T. C. Watson	1	63		
Battleford Rifle Company	Battleford	Captain Edward A. Nash	3	51		
			100	1563	428	2
Horses purchased for Gatling Guns					9	
Horses purchased for Battery					8	
					445	

RECAPITULATION

	Officers.	N.C. Officers and Men.	Horses.	Guns.
Sent From Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia	251	3042	141	6
Add above Force	100	1563	445	2
Total	351	4605	586	8
N.B.—The Mounted Police numbered 500 all told		500		
		5105		
Adding Officers		351		
Total		5456		

THE ORDER OF EVENTS.

March 22, 1885.—A despatch was received by Sir John Macdonald stating that Riel and a gang of his men, numbering 40 in all, had seized the mail bags at a way office near Duck Lake and stolen eight horses belonging to the mail courier. The telegraph lines were also reported down between Prince Albert and Clarke's Crossing. Riel was reported encamped at Duck Lake having plundered several stores and threatening to attack Fort Carlton.

March 23.—General Middleton had an interview with Mr. Caron, Minister of Militia and Defence, and left the same night for Winnipeg where he arrived on Friday, the 27th. Meantime Lieut-Gov. Dewdney had taken immediate steps to meet the emergency, and the 90th (Winnipeg) Battalion, which has since covered itself with glory, was called out on active service; also the Winnipeg Field Battery. The order calling them out was given on March 23. At that date Major Crozier was in Fort Carlton with 100 Mounted Police and one seven-pounder gun. Lieut-Col. Irvine was at South Saskatchewan.

March 26.—One hundred and twenty men of the 90th left for Troy (Qu'Appelle) station.

March 27.—At 6 p.m. General Middleton left Winnipeg with the remainder of the 90th, arriving at Troy on the 28th, at 9 a.m. Saturday.

March 28.—"A" and "B" Batteries left their headquarters for the front.

March 29.—Half the Winnipeg Field Battery arrived at Troy.

March 31.—The following telegram was received by the Minister of Militia.

To Hon. A. P. Caron:—

An attack on police at Carlton; 11 killed and wounded. Matter being serious, better send all regular and good city regiments. Experts here say ought to have at least 2000 men.

(*Signed*) F. MIDDLETON,
Major-General.

April 2.—General Middleton arrives at Fort Qu'Appelle.

April 6.—General Middleton leaves Fort Qu'Appelle *en route* for Humbolt with part of his troops, (about 350), viz: 90th Battalion, half Winnipeg Field Battery, twenty-five Scouts, "A" Battery on way from Troy to Qu'Appelle, "B" Battery remaining at Troy.

April 8.—Queen's Own to Fort Qu'Appelle. Lieut.-Col. O. Smith's Winnipeg Provisional Battalion ordered to Calgary and Fort McLeod. Lieut.-Col. Otter with troops at Swift Current. "A" Battery arrives at General Middleton's camp (great frost, 22 degrees below zero). General Strange given command of force at Calgary, McLeod and Gleichen. Forest ordered to Troy to act as Paymaster of Forces.

April 11.—General Middleton at Salt Plains. Lieut-Col. Otter ordered to leave for Battleford at once with 500 men.

April 13.—General Middleton in camp 18 miles from Humbolt. Maj-Gen. Laurie to Swift Current.

April 14.—General Middleton at Humboldt. Lt.-Col. Williams with Midland Battalion arrives at Swift Current.

April 15.—Surrender of Fort Pitt to Indians (Big Bear's); one policeman killed and one wounded.

April 16.—General Middleton's camp 30 miles from Clarke's Crossing. Later—General off to seize Clarke's Crossing.

April 21.—General Middleton divides his forces to act on each side the river. Lieut-Col. Williams leaves two companies of his battalion at Swift Current and proceeds with remainder to South Saskatchewan to take ferry with supplies for first column.

April 23.—General Middleton leaves Clarke's Crossing.

April 24.—General Middleton at Fish Creek.

April 25.—Battle of Fish Creek. Half-column division on north side cross back the river to join Middleton. Arrival Lieut-Col. Otter at Battleford.

May 3.—Engagement between Pound-Maker and Otter's column; 7 killed and 14 wounded.

May 6.—Steamer Northcote arrives at Clarke's Crossing with part of Midland Battalion.

May 7.—General Middleton moves from Fish Creek to camp near Gabriel's Crossing.

May 8.—Mounted Policeman Lafontaine captured by Pound-Maker. General Middleton leaves Gabriel's Crossing and camps 6 miles from Batoche's.

May 9.—First column leaves camp at 5 a.m., arrives at Batoche's at 8 a.m. Shells house on river bank. Lord Melgund leaves for Ottawa in afternoon.

May 11.—General Middleton's attack on Batoche's. Whole settlement carried; 9 killed and 30 wounded in the three days' fighting.

May 14.—Supply train from Swift Current to Battleford taken by Pound-Maker's men.

May 15.—Surrender of Riel.

May 16.—Order from Minister to send Riel to Regina.

May 19.—General Middleton at Guardupuy's Crossing.

May 20.—Strange leaves Edmonton with 65th by boat; rest by trail.

May 23.—Riel arrives at Regina under guard. General Middleton at Carlton. Receives letter from Pound-Maker and replies. Grenadiers leaving Prince Albert for Battleford. Remainder troops left by boat except Winnipeg Battery, staying at Prince Albert.

May 24.—General Middleton arrives at Battleford.

May 26.—Pound-Maker and chiefs surrender and made prisoners.

May 27.—Strange tracks Big Bear. Shells him. Loss on our side, three wounded. Returns to Fort Pitt.

May 30.—General Middleton with two gatlings, infantry, and cavalry, leaves Battleford by steamer to aid Strange.

June 3.—General Middleton starts after Big Bear with a mounted force of 260.

June 4.—Mounted Police ordered from Prince Albert to Green Lake to intercept Big Bear.

June 6.—Strange making for the Beaver River; arrives at the Chippewayan Mission Crossing June 9.

June 7.—Col. Otter ordered to Turtle and Jackfish Lakes to intercept Big Bear.

June 8.—Grenadiers at Pitt covering trails there. Midland Battalion sent to Frog Lake.

June 9.—General Middleton at Loon Lake. Crosses the Narrows on a raft. Abandons the pursuit of Big Bear—country impossible.

July 2.—Big Bear surrenders.

DISTRIBUTION OF TROOPS.

Arriving at Fort Qu'Appelle, General Middleton at once set to work studying out the plan of his campaign, so that on the arrival of the forces from the east, no time should be lost. According to orders issued by General Middleton the troops in the North-West were divided into three flying columns, and a base for transport of supplies was established on the Canadian Pacific Railway line. The first column, commanded by General Middleton, took at first their headquarters at Fort Qu'Appelle. The second column, under Lieut-Col. Otter, started from Swift Current. The third column, under Major-General Strange, took their post at Calgary. The base for transport of supplies was placed at Swift Current, under Major-General Laurie. Other corps were placed out along the Canada Pacific Railway line, ready to start at a moment's notice for north or south, as circumstances demanded. The following shows the name and strength of each column, and the strength and position of other corps along the railway:—

FIRST COLUMN.

"A" Battery, (Quebec)	111
90th Battalion, (Winnipeg)	323
Infantry School Corps, (part)	46
Boulton's Scouts	80
10th Battalion Royal Grenadiers	267
Capt. French's Scouts	50
Winnipeg Field Battery, (part)	33
Dennis' Surveyors' Scouts	60
Midland Battalion	108

SECOND COLUMN.

"B" Battery, (Kingston)	114
Queen's Own	275
Infantry School, (part)	45
Todd's Sharpshooters	51
Winnipeg Field Battery, (part)	30
35th Battalion, (part)	265

THIRD COLUMN.

65th Battalion	232
Winnipeg Provisional Battalion, (32nd)	307
Strange's Rangers	50
Mounted Police	67

The rest of the force was stationed as follows:—

CLARKE'S CROSSING:	
7th Battalion	232
Midland	168
TOUCHWOOD:	
35th Battalion, (2nd Company)	80
Quebec Cavalry School	40
Winnipeg Troop Cavalry	39
HUMBOLDT:	
Governor-General's Body Guards	81
FORT QU'APPELLE:	
91st Battalion	390
MOOSE JAW:	
66th Battalion Halifax, (part)	175
MEDICINE HAT:	
66th Battalion Halifax, (part)	175
GLEICHEN—CALGARY—FORT MCLEOD:	
9th (Quebec) Battalion	232
OLD WIVES' LAKE:	
White's Scouts	51
CYPRESS HILLS:	
Stewart's Rangers	150

Local companies were also organized and authorized for actual service at Regina, Battleford, Prince Albert, Calgary, Brandon, Emerson, Yorktown, and Birtle.

General Middleton left Fort Qu'Appelle with his men on April 6 with a march of 212 miles before him, to Clarke's Crossing. Col. Otter's column left Swift Current April 11, with a march of 203 miles, and arrived at Battleford on the 23th, having made the distance at the rate of about 30 miles a day. The men travelled in waggons. General Strange, with his column, left Calgary on April 20, and reached Edmonton on the 5th May, having made his march of 194 miles in 15 days.

ENGAGEMENTS.

DUCK LAKE, March 26.—The first encounter with half-breeds took place at Duck Lake, which is about 15 miles from Fort Carlton, and about 25 miles from Prince Albert. 100 Mounted Police, under Major Crozier, and the officers and men of the Prince Albert local company took part. Eleven loyalists were killed. The police retreated to Carlton, which they burnt, and then went on to Prince Albert.

FISH CREEK, April 25.—This was the first engagement between the first flying column, commanded by General Middleton, and the rebels. Our scouts were fired at by Indians and half-breeds and waited for the column, which arrived. The firing lasted for several hours. Volunteers killed, 10; wounded, 48.

CUT KNIFE HILLS, May 3.—Col. Otter, with 300 men, marched out of Battleford for 35 miles and fought Pound-Maker with 600 braves for several hours, inflicting heavy loss. Otter retreated in good order, having 4 killed and 12 wounded. The force during thirty hours marched seventy miles and fought several hours with the Indians.

BATOCHE'S, May 9 to 11.—This engagement was the second one between the first flying column under General Middleton and the half-breeds and Indians led by Gabriel Dumont, and was the most serious one since the beginning of the campaign, as Batoche's was considered, and was in fact the stronghold of the rebels. On the 9th we had 1 killed and 7 wounded; on the 11th we had 9 killed and 30 wounded. The following telegram from General Middleton relates briefly the facts.

"We had an engagement with the enemy on Monday. I received a message from Riel saying: "If you massacre our women and children, we will massacre our prisoners." I answered, "put your women in a safe place, point it out, and we will not fire at it." I then pushed on our advance guard, and when I saw a chance, ordered a general advance. Our men responded nobly and were splendidly led by their officers.

"Col. Straubenzie drove the enemy out of their rifle pits at the point of the bayonet, and afterwards forced his way across the plain and seized the houses, of which we are now masters.

"Our men bivouacked on Monday night on the field of battle. In the heat of the action Riel sent another letter, stating that if the General did not retreat or grant an interview, the prisoners would be killed. The letter came too late, the advance being already ordered. The prisoners were rescued and are safe in camp. The enemy had not time to kill them. Our loss is five killed and fifteen wounded. The enemy sustained great loss."

MAY 30.—Strange's reconnoissance in force with Big bear. Strange had 300 men, and found Big Bear with 500 braves strongly entrenched in a commanding position twelve miles north-east of Fort Pitt, and four miles back from the river on the north side. In the reconnoisance three volunteers were wounded.

JUNE 3.—Steele's Scouts had a brush with Big Bear at Onion Lake. Three scouts wounded.

THE COMMISSARIAT.

"An army crawls on its belly," is the military adage employed to show the intimate relations between military movements and commisariat supplies. Canada suddenly sprung into a war 2,000 miles away from the chief centres of population, found herself without even the barest skeleton of either an hospital branch or a commissariat branch, or a transport service. Food for 5,000 troops had to be provided. The attendant army of teamsters, foragers, surgeons, and others who wait upon the troops had also to be supplied. There was no Government depot of food supply. There was not even a round of hard tack or a ship's biscuit in store. The season was the worst possible time of the year, for winter had not disappeared nor spring set in. The snow was too soft to bear heavy teams. The grass was not long enough for the use of horses and cattle. There was no shelter along the wide stretches of prairie. When the Minister of Militia came to confront this particular phrase, he must for a while have felt that the difficulty was insurmountable, that it was simply impossible to undertake to gather together food supplies, waggons, horses, teamsters to send them off to the front to keep the fighting army well fed. What the work is may be seen from the fact that on May 28 last, there left Calgary for Edmonton a convoy three miles long, consisting of 178 ox and Indian-pony carts; 45 four and two-horse teams; and 80 double bull waggons, each hauled by ten huge oxen, conveying two or three hundred tons of supplies.

Fortunately the Minister of Militia in organizing the commissariat, availed himself of the help of the Hudson Bay Company. This help has been secured under the most liberal and honest conditions, the company agreeing to sell provisions from their stores at wholesale prices, and those provisions they had to purchase at market prices, receiving 5 per cent. profit, which sum was far less than would have been required for a new organization throughout such an immense territory. Lieut-Col. Jackson was ordered to Winnipeg, which city was designated as the head-quarters for distributing supplies. He was assisted by Lieut-Col. M. LaMontagne as supply officer. Subsequently Lieut-Col. Whitehead was appointed general transport officer. All these officers received instructions to communicate with Mr. S. Wrigley, commissioner of the Hudson Bay Company at Winnipeg. His experience was most valuable in the emergency. The results are before the people. The troops marching by forced marches found supplies, the horses found forage ready for them whenever they pitched camp. There was a close race between demand and supply occasionally, but the Hudson's Bay Company as a commissariat has proved a success.

ARMS, AMMUNITION, Etc.

Immediately upon the force being called out for active service, the Minister of Militia issued orders for the transport to Winnipeg of a reserve supply of arms, ammunition, accoutrements, and camp equipment, to provide for any emergency, and within a period of ten to fourteen days from the time the order was received, over 1,000,000 rounds of small arm ammunition, besides a supply of artillery ammunition and projectiles, 6,000 new Snider rifles, and 1,500 sets of accoutrements (new) were delivered in Winnipeg.

To meet the requirements of mounted corps specially organized in the North-West, a supply of Colts army revolvers and Winchester carbines were also sent forward to Winnipeg. The shipments of war material, camp equipment, clothing and necessaries continued to be made from time to time to meet all possible demands, until the quantity of small arms ammunition of all descriptions reached 1,510,000 rounds, and about 2,000 rounds of artillery ammunition and projectiles, this being exclusive of the small arms ammunition of 20 rounds per man issued to corps before departure to the North-west.

A reserve supply of clothing, boots, socks, undershirts and drawers, grey flannel shirts, blankets, and towels sufficient for 4,000 men was also sent forward to Winnipeg without delay. With exception of the uniform clothing, much of these articles had to be purchased, as the supply in stores was limited to the actual requirements of the permanent corps or schools of cavalry, artillery and infantry. Independently of this, the various corps before leaving Ontario and Quebec were supplied with camp equipment, blankets (two per man), waterproof sheets. Boots, etc., and fur caps were supplied to such corps as required them.

THE HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Still another important branch had to be prepared. The department had to provide an hospital service for the field. Dr. Bergin, M.P., was appointed surgeon-general. The whole subject was carefully studied, and in a week after his appointment he had prepared a system suited to the requirements—the Minister of Militia had studied and approved it. The following data will be interesting. A fuller account of the work that had to be done in connection with organizing this important branch was published in the *Mail* of

APRIL 1.—Appointment of Dr. Bergin as surgeon-general.

APRIL 2—Appointment of Dr. Roddick as deputy surgeon-general, and Dr. Sullivan, purveyor. Orders sent to Montreal for hospital furniture; sent to Winnipeg 8th April.

APRIL 12.—Dr. Roddick arrives at Winnipeg.

APRIL 14.—Dr. Sullivan arrives at Winnipeg.

APRIL 16.—Dr. Casgrain, Field Hospital No. 2, Dr. Roddick at Swift Current, where base hospital was established at that point. Four divisions were sent from this base:—Surgeon-Major Douglas, at Calgary, to accompany General Strange; Dr. Bell, at Clarke's Crossing; Dr. Gravely to Qu'Appelle; Dr. Wilson with first column (Middleton). Sick soldiers in Winnipeg were placed in civil hospital.

APRIL 23.—Base hospital was transferred from Swift Current to Moose Jaw.

APRIL 29.—All hospital staff except deputy surgeon-general, surgeon-major Casgrain, surgeons Bell, Gravely, Powell and Pelletier are relieved this day; eight dressers and two orderlies also discharged. Red Cross Ambulance Corps of Toronto, under Dr. Nattress, accepted 14th April, and sent to Battleford, where they arrived to meet wounded brought in from fight with Pound-Maker.